



W.J. BANG, M.D.
REEVES COUNTY JUDGE
REEVES COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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May 26, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

From: W. J. Bang, M.D., County Judge

RE: Notice of Unsuccessful Offer

TO: RCDC Staff, Public

PECOS, Texas: On May 25, 2017, the Bureau of Prisons formally announced that the CAR 16 Solicitation for the housing of up to 3,600 inmates to be housed in one or more units not exceeding 1,800 beds each, had been awarded to the GEO Group, Inc. for their two Big Spring units, in separate awards for 1732 and 1800 beds, respectively.

Reeves County has made a very diligent and competitive effort to retain the RCDC contracts with the Bureau of Prisons, but we were unsuccessful. However, because the relocation of inmates will take some time, a one-year "bridge" contract will be negotiated for the continued operation of RCDC Unit III, with that one year period to commence at the expiration of the current contract June 30, 2017.

Further, a new solicitation (Solicitation 19), for as many as 9,500 inmate beds has been issued by the Bureau of Prisons, and Reeves County will certainly seek new contracts for detention services under that new solicitation. However, an award under that solicitation is not anticipated to occur any sooner than 18-24 months from today.

At this time, it is difficult to make any definitive statement regarding the continuation of detention employment beyond the immediate contracts, which expire July 31, 2017 for RCDC I&II, and the bridge contract, which would expire one year later, June 30, 2018, for RCDC Unit III. As a consequence, Reeves County and the staff of the RCDC units must confront the possibility that all current employees will no longer have employment by the end of the bridge contract, but with the prospect of ramping back up should the county be fortunate enough to land new contracts under the new Solicitation 19.

At this time, we must confront the reality that RCDC Units I&II will be closed, hopefully temporarily, but certainly, after July 31, 2017, there are virtually no prospects for continued need for staffing in that unit. Therefore, employees of Units I&II should consider this as notice of the discontinuance of employment with the Reeves County Detention Centers I&II, effective at the end of the shift cycle, July 31, 2017.

This news comes despite the excellent ratings for the performance of our staff and overall unit evaluations by the BOP in recent years. Because of the competitive nature of the solicitation under the CAR 16 requirements, there was always a possibility that the Reeves County units would not be awarded one or both contracts. We submitted an excellent proposal, with very competitive pricing. We have requested what is known as a "debriefing" conference to determine where and how the Reeves County proposals were deemed non-competitive or how our proposal scored in relation to the winning proposals.

Please accept the sincere appreciation for the services you have rendered to Reeves County in the performance of your duties, and we know that you will continue to display the professionalism you have demonstrated over the years during the remainder of your service with Reeves County. You will be informed of developments in this regard as they become known to Reeves County. Every effort will be made to retain as many jobs as possible, and to aggressively market the available beds so that some, if not all, existing jobs can be re-established in the near term. Uncertainties with the federal budget, bed demands of the Federal government, as well as other state and local based bed needs all suggest however, that the ability to retain or re-establish all the RCDC I&II jobs in the near term are very unlikely. We wish you the very best of luck, and again, thank you for your dedicated service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'W. J. Bang, M.D.', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

W. J. Bang, M.D.
County Judge